A CLOUD OF WITNESSES,

Proving, that the

BISHOP OF *Lichfield* and *Coventry*,

In the second Volume of his

Vindication of the MIRACLES of our Blessed Saviour,

misrepresented the PEOPLE call'd

QUAKERS.

LONDON:

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A CLOUD OF WITNESSES, &c.

THO' the Teſtimony of a good Conſcience doth effectually eſtabliſh the Peace of the Innocent, that they neither court the Applauſes of Men, nor are mov'd at their Revilings, but, as to themſelves, can patiently paſs the worſt of Calumnies with Contempt: Yet for the Sake of Truth, and the honeſt Enquirers after it, they find a Neceſſity ſometimes to ſtop the Currency of Miſreports, by ſtripping them of their Diſguiſe, and ſhewing them in their proper Colours.

THE Biſhop of *Lichfield* and *Coventry*, in the *ſecond Volume* of his *Vindication of the Miracles of our Bleſſed Saviour*, repreſents the *Quakers* in the following Words, * "The "Enthuſiaſtical Pretenſions of *David George*, and

* *Preface*, p. 5, 6.

" and *Henry Nicholas*, the Heads of the *Fa-*
" *miliſts*, and of *George Fox*, and other
" *Heads* of the *Quakers*, the latter of whom
" borrowed their myſtical Scheme from the
" former, were in many Reſpects the very
" ſame with thoſe that have been lately
" vamp'd up by Mr. *W.* namely, they alle-
" gorized away the Letter of the New Te-
" ſtament, by oppoſing, or at leaſt preferring,
" a Spiritual or Inward *Chriſt*, to a Literal,
" Hiſtorical, and Outward *Jeſus*, and that in
" all the Circumſtances of his Birth, Life,
" Death, Reſurrection and Aſcenſion, about
" the Letter of which they wrote with Con-
" tempt. And,

" † QUAKERS, who have been deluded ſo
" far, as to loſe the Belief of a *Real External*
" *Jeſus*, by the *Chriſt within them*, and the
" literal Reſurrection of the former, by the
" ſpiritual and moral One of the latter. ¶

THESE

† pag. 572, 573.

¶ *Note*: The *Biſhop*, inſtead of proving his Aſſertions a-gainſt the *Quakers*, refers to Dr. *H. More*, and Mr. *Leſley*, their profeſs'd Adverſaries. Would he think it juſt, ſhould any produce the injurious Charges of the *Roman Catholicks* againſt the *firſt Reformers* in *England*, and to prove them cite *Campian*, *Harding*, *Stapleton*, or *Fiſher*? Or would he eſteem the Authority of *Leſley* ſufficient, to excuſe a Man in repeating the *bitter Invectives* that *Author* utter'd againſt the Carriage of the *Engliſh Clergy* at the Revolution?

THESE Aſſertions of the Biſhop, are very unjuſt, for,

NEITHER *George Fox*, nor other Heads of the *Quakers*, as he terms them, allegorized away the Letter of the New Teſtament, but always had a due Eſteem and Regard for thoſe ſacred Writings, and did believe all the Circumſtances of the Birth, Life, Death, Reſurrection and Aſcenſion of *Chriſt*, according to the Letter, or hiſtorical Account, of the New Teſtament:

NEITHER have the *Quakers* loſt the Belief of a Real External Jeſus, nor of his literal Reſurrection;

WHICH their own Writings will plentifully evince.

1. * George Fox *and others; in the Year* 1671, *preſented a Paper, directed to the* Governour *of* Barbadoes; *with his Council and Aſſembly, and all others in Power both Civil and Mili-*

* *G. Fox's Journal*, p. 358.

Military, in that Iſland; from the People call'd Quakers: *Which Paper begins thus,*

" WHEREAS many ſcandalous Lies and " Slanders have been caſt upon us to render " us odious, *as that we deny God, and Chriſt* " *Jeſus, and the Scriptures of Truth*, &c. This " is to inform you, that all our *Books* and " *Declarations*, which for theſe many Years " have been publiſhed to the World, do " clearly teſtify the contrary. Yet notwith- " ſtanding for your Satisfaction, we do now " plainly and ſincerely declare, that we do " own and believe in God, the Only, Wiſe, " Omnipotent, and Everlaſting God, who " is Creator of all Things, both in Heaven " and in the Earth, and the Preſerver of all " that He hath made, who is God over all, " bleſſed for ever: To whom be all Honour " and Glory, Dominion, Praiſe, and Thankſ- " giving, both now and for evermore. And " we do own, and believe in *Jeſus Chriſt*, His " beloved and only begotten Son, in whom " he is well pleaſed; who was conceived by " the *Holy Ghoſt*, born of the *Virgin Mary*, in " whom we have Redemption through his " Blood, even the Forgiveneſs of Sins: *Who*

" *is*

" *is the expreſs Image of the inviſible God, the*
" *Firſt born of every Creature, by whom were all*
" *Things created, that are in Heaven, and that*
" *are in Earth, viſible and inviſible, whether*
" *they be Thrones or Dominions, or Principalities*
" *or Powers; all Things were created by him.*
" And we do own and believe, that he was
" made a Sacrifice for Sin, who knew no Sin,
" neither was Guile found in his Mouth.
" And that he was crucified for us in the
" Fleſh, without the Gates of *Jeruſalem*;
" and that he was buried and roſe again the
" third Day by the Power of his Father, for
" our Juſtification. And we do believe that
" he aſcended up into Heaven, and now ſit-
" teth at the Right Hand of God. This *Je-*
" *ſus*, who was the *Foundation* of the holy
" Prophets and Apoſtles, is our *Foundation*:
" And we do believe, that there is no other
" *Foundation* to be laid, but that which is laid,
" even *Chriſt Jeſus*, who, we believe, taſted
" Death for every Man, and ſhed his Blood
" for all Men, and is the Propitiation for our
" Sins, and not for ours only, but alſo for the
" Sins of the whole World.

" † And as concerning the holy Scriptures,
" we do believe, that they were given forth

† *G. Fox's Journal* p. 359.

" by the Holy Spirit of God, thro' the Holy " Men of God, who (as the Scripture it ſelf " declares, 2 *Pet.* i. 21.) ſpake as they were " moved by the Holy Ghoſt.

2. *Edward Burroughs.*

" * THE *Scriptures* we own to be a true " Declaration of the Witneſs which was in " the Apoſtles, of the Reſurrection, and of " the Aſcenſion of *Chriſt*.

" † THE *Scriptures* we own to be a true " Declaration of the Life which they lived in " which ſpoke them forth, and by the ſame " Spirit from which they were ſpoken (which " we have received) do we ſet to our Seals " that they are true; and the Scripture is " ours, who walk in the Life of it; proud " Men ſpoke it not forth, nor they that ſought " for their Gain from their Quarter, nor they " that preached for Hire, nor they that were " called of Men *Maſter*, but perſecuted " them that ſpoke it forth, and denied it " when it was ſpoken.

HE

* *Collection* of his *Works* p. 359. † Ibid. p. 128.

" * He is the very *Chriſt* of God, who " was before the World was, by whom the " World was made, who was made manifeſt " from *Mary's* Womb, and was perſecuted to " Death by the *Scribes* and *Phariſees*.

" † I farther ſay, that *Chriſt Jeſus*, that " was crucified and roſe again, ſhall come, as " he went away, to Judgment, and the Dead " ſhall be raiſed; and every Man ſhall receive " according to their Deeds, and he ſhall ſit " to judge the Heathen round about.

3. *Iſaac Pennington.*

" ¶ Now this we have often found, that " this our Teſtimony [*to the inward Virtue* " *and Operations of the Spirit of Chriſt*] hath " not been received in the ſame Spirit and " Love wherein it hath gone forth, but the " Enemy by his Subtilty hath raiſed up Jea- " louſies concerning us, and Prejudices a- " gainſt us, as if we denied the Scriptures " and Ordinances of God, and that *Chriſt* that " died at *Jeruſalem*, profeſſing him only in

* Ibid. p. 149. † Ibid. p. 283. ¶ *His Works*, part. II. p. 18.

" Words (to win upon others by) but deny-
" ing him in Reality and Subſtance.

" To clear this latter, (for my Heart is
" only at this preſent drawn out concerning
" that) we have ſolemnly profeſſed in the
" Sight of the Lord God, (who hath given us
" the Knowledge of his Son in Life and Pow-
" er) theſe two Things,

" *Firſt*, THAT we do really in our Hearts
" own that *Chriſt*, who came in the Fulneſs
" of Time, in that prepared Body to do the
" Father's Will, his Coming into the World,
" Doctrines, Miracles, Sufferings, Death,
" Reſurrection, *&c.* in plainneſs and ſimpli-
" city of Heart, according as it is expreſſed
" in the Letter of the Scriptures.

" 2*dly*, THAT we own no other *Chriſt*
" than that, nor hold forth no other Thing
" for *Chriſt*, but him who then appeared, and
" was made manifeſt in the Fleſh.

" * Glorious was the Appearance and
" Manifeſtation of his [God's] Son in Fleſh,
" precious

* Ibid. 186.

" precious his Subjection and holy Obedience
" to his Father; his giving himſelf up to
" Death for Sinners was of great Eſteem in
" His Eye. It was a ſpotleſs Sacrifice of great
" Value, and effectual for the Remiſſion of
" Sins; and I do acknowledge humbly unto
" the Lord, the Remiſſion of my Sins there-
" by, and bleſs the Lord for it, even for giv-
" ing up his Son to Death for us all, and
" giving all that believe in his Name and
" Power, to partake of Remiſſion through
" him.

4. *William Bayley.*

" *I believe, and we believe, that *Chriſt*
" had a Body, and came, and preached, and
" ſuffered, and died, and roſe and aſcended,
" and ſitteth at God's Right Hand, *&c.* ac-
" cording to the Scriptures.

5. † *James Naylor.*

" ¶ And concerning his [*Chriſt's*] Suffer-
" ings at *Jeruſalem*, I have believed them
from

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* His collected Works. p. 299.

† We have quoted this Author, that our Opponents may ſee even the Man, whoſe Failings have been the Subject of their Inſults, Orthodox in theſe Matters.

¶ *J. Naylor's* Works, Ep. to the Reader. p. 37.

" from a Child according to the Scriptures,
" and I can truly ſay, I was never of any
" Faith contrary, and much more am I con-
" firmed therein daily, having found the Ef-
" fect and Power of that ſuffering Spirit to
" be all my Strength in all my Tribulations.

" * HAVING heard of divers Untruths
" caſt upon me by ſome of the Prieſts in their
" high Places, though I ſtand only to the
" Lord, in Reſpect of my ſelf, yet leſt any
" that love the Truth, ſhould be led to ſpeak
" evil of the Things they know not, I ſhall
" lay open the Truth as it is in me revealed,
" touching thoſe Things whereof I have been
" falſly accuſed,

1. CONCERNING *Jeſus Chriſt* who is the
" Eternal Word of God, by whom all Things
" were made, who was before all Time, but
" manifeſted in Time for the Recovery of
" loſt Man; which Word became Fleſh, and
" dwelt among the Saints, who is the ſame
" Yeſterday and to Day, and for ever, who
" did and doth dwell in the Saints, who ſuf-
" fered and roſe again, and aſcended into
" Heaven, and is at the Right Hand of God.

2.

* Ibid. p. 20.

" 2. * CONCERNING the *Scriptures*, that " they are a true Declaration of that Word " which was in them, that gave or ſpake " them forth, and are of no private Inter- " pretation, but were given forth to be read " and fulfilled in the Saints, as they were " given forth by the Holy Ghoſt, without " adding or diminiſhing; and were not giv- " en forth for Men to make a Trade upon to " get Money by.

6. *Stephen Smith.*

" † CHRIST, that was before *Abraham*, and " was in the Body which was prepared for " him to do the Will of his Father, in which " he ſuffered without the Gates of *Jeruſalem*, " by wicked Hands, and roſe again.

7. *George Fox* the Younger.

" ¶ As concerning *Jeſus Chriſt*, that was ſup- " poſed to be *Joſeph* the *Carpenter's* Son, who, " as concerning the Fleſh, was crucified and " put to Death at *Jeruſalem*, between two Thieves,

* *J. Naylor's Works*, p. 21. † Collection of ſeveral little Treatiſes of his p. 290. ¶ Collection of his Writings p. 208, 209.

" Thieves, upon the Croſs at Mount *Calvary*,
" I do believe, he was the Son of God, and
" that that very Body, that the Soldiers pierc-
" ed, was the very Body that was prepared
" by the Father, for *Chriſt* the true *Saviour*,
" to come in, to do the Will of the Father
" that ſent him: And I do believe, that by
" the Grace of God he taſted Death for every
" Man, that as many as believe in, and obey
" him, whoſe Soul was made an Offering
" for Sin, might have Eternal Life through
" him who gave his precious Life a Ranſom
" for many.

8. *Roger Haydock.*

" * The People called *Quakers*, do prefer
" and eſteem the Book called *The Bible*, or
" *Holy Scriptures*, above any outward Wri-
" ting, or Book, extant upon the Earth, be-
" cauſe of the Verity and Plenty of deep hea-
" venly Sayings uttered by God unto *Moſes*
" and the Prophets, through the ſeveral Ages
" of the World, and particularly and emi-
" nently through the Heavenly Man *Chriſt*
" *Jeſus*, who was anointed with the Oyl of
Gladneſs

* Collection of his Writings, p. 94.

" Gladneſs above his Fellows, and filled with
" the Spirit without Meaſure.

9. *Samuel Fiſher.*

" * THE Letter is acknowledged by us,
" full as much as it is by it ſelf, to have been
" written by Men moved of God's Spirit,
" and to be uſeful, profitable, ſerviceable,
" *&c.* to be read and heeded.

10. *George Whitehead.*

¶ WE own the true *Chriſt* according to the
" Scriptures, who according to the Fleſh,
" was of the Seed of *Abraham* and *David*
" and according to the Spirit is declared to
" be the Son of God with Power by the Re-
" ſurrection, and that he was the Word
" which was made Fleſh, and dwelt in the
" Diſciples, *John* i. 14. [ἐν ἡμῖν] and his Death
" as concerning the Fleſh, and his Reſurrecti-
" on, and Aſcenſion according to the Scrip-
" tures of Truth, we own, and that he is

* *S. Fiſher's* Works, p. 33.
¶ *The Son of Perdition reveal'd*, printed *Anno* 1661, p. 9.

" glorified with the Father, in the ſame Glo-
" ry which he had with the Father before
" the World began.

11. *John Whitehead.*

" * We ſay and believe, that without the
" Sufferings and Death of *Chriſt* at *Jeruſa-*
" *lem*, no Man can be ſaved, juſtified or ſan-
" ctified.

12 *Robert Barclay.*

" ¶ We do look upon them [*the Scriptures*]
" as the only fit outward Judge of Controver-
" ſies among Chriſtians, and that whatſo-
" ever Doctrine is contrary unto their Teſti-
" mony, may therefore juſtly be rejected as
" falſe.

" We ſhall alſo be very willing to admit
" it as a poſitive certain Maxim, *That what-*
" *ſoever any do, pretending to the Spirit, which*
" *is contrary to the Scriptures, be accounted and*
" *reckoned a Deluſion of the Devil.*

" * As

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* *Collection* of his *Written Labours*, p. 93.
¶ *R. Barclay's* Apol. p. 86.

" * As we believe all thoſe Things to have
" been certainly tranſacted which are record-
" ed in the *Holy Scriptures*, concerning the
" *Birth*, *Life*, *Miracles*, *Sufferings*, *Reſurrec-*
" *tion* and *Aſcenſion* of Chriſt, ſo we do alſo
" believe, that it is the Duty of every one to
" believe it, to whom it pleaſes God to re-
" veal the ſame, and to bring them to the
" Knowledge of it.

" † THE Original and fundamental Cauſe
" of our Juſtification, is the Love of God ma-
" nifeſted in the Appearance of *Jeſus Chriſt*
" in the Fleſh, who by his *Life*, *Death*, *Suf-*
" *ferings* and *Obedience*, made a Way for
" our Reconciliation, and became a Sacrifice
" for the Remiſſion of Sins that are paſt.

13 *Richard Claridge.*

" ¶ As for my Part, I believe, that the
" *Holy Scriptures* were given by Inſpiration
" of God; that they contain a clear Teſti-
" mony to all the Eſſentials of the Chriſtian
" Faith.

* Ibid. p. 141. † Ibid. p. 226.
¶ Lux Evangelica atteſtata, p. 30.

" * When the full Time was come, God " ſent *His Son made of a Woman, made under* " *the Law*, Gal. iv. 4. And the Son being " manifeſt in the Body prepared for him by " the Father, did the Will of God, preached " the Heavenly Doctrine, wrought many " Miracles, lived a moſt holy Life, and " having given Proofs of a moſt admirable " Patience, was at laſt put to an ignomini- " ous Death.

" And as he was delivered to Death for " our Offences, and not for ours only, but " alſo for the Sins of the whole World, *Rom.* " iv. 25. and 1 *John* ii. 2. So was he raiſed " up the third Day for our Juſtification: He " aſcended up on high, far above all Hea- " vens, and is ſet down at the Right Hand " of the Throne of God.

14 *Thomas Beaven:*

" ¶ The Son in the Fulneſs of Time came " down from Heaven, and took upon him " not the Nature of Angels, but the Seed of " *Abraham*

* *R. Claridge's* Life and Poſthumous Works, p. 561.

¶ *Second Thoughts*, p. 15.

" *Abraham*, was born of the Virgin *Mary*, " ſuffered under *Pontius Pilate*, the cruel and " ſhameful Death of the Croſs, to be a Pro- " pitiation and Atonement for the Sins of " the whole World, he roſe again the third " Day from the Dead, and aſcended into " Heaven, and is the Interceſſor, Advocate, " and Mediator, between God and Man, " the King, Prieſt, and Prophet of his Church, " the only Author of Eternal Salvation unto " all them that obey him. True God and " perfect Man.

" * THAT the Holy Scriptures of the Old " and New Teſtament are of Divine Autho- " rity, becauſe the Holy Men of God wrote " them as they were moved by the Holy " Ghoſt.—and that they are the only Ex- " ternal Rule of Faith and Manners.

15 *Joſeph Wyeth.*

" † I do here of ſet Purpoſe declare, it is " a Truth, which now is, and always hath " been, ſince we were a People, believed and " declared

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* Ibid. p. 16. † Switch for the Snake, p. 191.

" declared by us, that the Word which was " in the Beginning with God, by which all " Things were made, did, in the Fulneſs of " Time, according to the Appointment of " the Father, take Fleſh, and was born of " the Virgin *Mary*, and that in that Body of " Fleſh, the Fulneſs of the Godhead dwelt " bodily. Thus in the Largeneſs of the Ex- " preſſion, and Senſe of *Scripture*, we do tru- " ly and ſincerely own, according to *John* i. " 14. That the Word was made Fleſh and " dwelt on the Earth, and took not on him " the Nature of Angels, nor any Aerial " or Fantaſtical Body, but the Seed of *A-* " *braham* and *David*, and this he did for the " ſame Reaſon and Behoof mentioned by the " Apoſtle, *Heb.* ii. 17, 18.

16 *John Crook.*

" * We believe that *Chriſt Jeſus* was ma- " nifeſted in the Fleſh in Fulneſs of Time.

" ¶ We believe alſo that this *Jeſus* died " for, or becauſe of, Sin, and roſe again for " the Juſtification of thoſe that believe in him.

" We

* *Collection* of Books, Epiſtles and Manuſcripts of his, p. 360.
¶ Ibid. p. 361.

" * We farther believe, that *Chriſt Jeſus*
" roſe again from the Dead according unto
" the *Scriptures*, and ſits at God's Right
" Hand in a Glorious Body.

17 *John Field.*

" ¶ The *Quakers* own *Jeſus* of *Nazareth*,
" and that *Chriſt* is both God and Man, ac-
" cording to the *Scriptures*.

18 *William Rawlinſon.*

" † We believe that there is no Remiſſion
" of Sin, but by Virtue of his [*Chriſt's*] moſt
" precious Death and Sufferings, performed
" for us, without us.

19 *Daniel Philips.*

" ** Our Principle of the Light within,
" duly conſidered, will never lead any to
" undervalue the *Holy Scriptures*, nor the Do-
" ctrines

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* Ibid. 363. ¶ A Teſtimony to *Chriſt* his Sacrifice, Ordinances, &c. p. 1. † His Preface to the Univerſality of the Love of God aſſerted. ** Vindiciæ Veritatis, p. 174.

" ctrines therein contained, neither has it
" led us, notwithſtanding our Enemies falſe
" Inſinuations, to conteman them; but it
" hath, as ſincerely followed, inclined us to
" eſteem and value them, to bleſs Provi-
" dence, that we are favoured with the
" Knowledge of them, to recommend them
" to all to be read in their Families, to re-
" peat Paſſages out of them in our Goſpel-
" Miniſtry, to deſire the Lord to open them
" to us by His Holy Spirit, that we may
" ſquare all our Actions by 'em, and to pre-
" fer 'em before all Books whatſoever.

" * WHATEVER *J. S.* may ſuggeſt con-
" cerning us, we do not only believe in
" *Chriſt*, as he is within us, but alſo in him
" as born of the Virgin *Mary*, crucified with-
" out the Gates of *Jeruſalem*; aſcended into
" Heaven in the Sight of his Diſciples, and
" now ſits at the Right Hand of Majeſty, to
" make Interceſſion for us.

20 *Samuel Watſon.*

" ¶ WE who are in Scorn called *Quakers*,
" (though Chriſtians in Nature) are ſo far
" from

* Ibid. p. 67. ¶ *Collection* of his Works, p. 214.

" from laying waſte or ſlighting the *Scrip-*
" *tures* of Truth, that we eſteem them above
" all other the Writings of Men, and would
" have all to read them with a ſingle Eye in
" the Fear of the Lord.

" * THIS is he [*Chriſt*] who ſuffered under
" *Pontius Pilate*, was Crucified, Dead and
" Buried, and the third Day roſe again, who
" aſcended, and ſitteth on the Right Hand
" of God the Father, from whence by his
" own Power he comes to judge both the
" Quick and the Dead. This is he in whom
" I believe, and is my Saviour, in and thro'
" whoſe precious Blood is my Salvation and
" Redemption.

21 *Richard Vivers.*

" ¶ I do moſt ſincerely declare, that I and
" my Friends do firmly believe in, dearly
" own, and expect Salvation by, the Lord
" *Jeſus Chriſt*——who was conceived by the
" Holy Ghoſt, born of the Virgin *Mary*,
" wrought Miracles, and by the Finger of
" God caſt out Devils, ſuffered under *Pontius*

* Ibid. p. 209. ¶ Vicar of *Banbury* corrected, p. 4, 5.

" *Pilate*, died for our Sins, and roſe again " for our Juſtification.——Him God raiſed " up the third Day, and ſhewed him openly, " and is ordained of God to be the Judge of " Quick and Dead.

22 *John Fallowfield*,

In anſwer to a *Prieſt* of the Church of *England*, who had affirmed, *That* Turks *come up to as high a Pitch of* Proteſtantiſm, *as any* Quakers, ſays thus,

" * I ask him, Whenever he knew any " *Turk* own *Jeſus Chriſt* to be the Son of God? " And the Means appointed for Man's Sal- " vation? And that there is no other Name " given under Heaven, whereby Men can " be ſaved, and that he died for our Sins, " and roſe again for our Juſtification, that " we might be made the Righteouſneſs of " God, created anew in him unto good " Works? That he is in a glorified State " beyond human Comprehenſion, at the " Right Hand of the Father, where he ever " lives to intercede for Mankind according " to the Will of God, and is the Lord from " Heaven

* A brief Examination of *William Taſwell's* Book, p. 35, 36.

" Heaven the quickning Spirit? All this the
" *Quakers* profeſs and ſtedfaſtly believe.

23 *At* Philadelphia *in* Penſilvania;
A *Solemn Confeſſion*, ſigned by 39 of the People called *Quakers*, at a Meeting there.

" * We ſincerely believe, own and confeſs,
" no other Lord and Saviour, than our Lord
" *Jeſus Chriſt*, the Son of the Living God,
" to whom the Prophets and Apoſtles gave
" Witneſs, and who in the Fulneſs of Time
" took Fleſh of the Seed of *Abraham*, and of
" the Stock of *David*; We confeſs to his Mi-
" raculous Conception by the Power of the
" Holy Spirit overſhadowing of the Virgin
" *Mary*, and to his being born of her (accord-
" ing to the Fleſh) and that he took upon
" him a real Body, and that he was a real
" Man, and that in the Days of his Fleſh, he
" preached Righteouſneſs, wrought Mira-
" cles, was crucified, being put to Death by
" wicked Hands, and that he was buried,
" and roſe again the third Day, according to
" the *Scriptures*; and after he roſe, he really
" appeared to many Brethren, and afterward

* *Our Ancient Teſtimony renewed, concerning our Lord and Saviour* Jeſus Chriſt, *printed* 1695, p. 13, 14.

" he aſcended into Glory, according to the " Wiſdom and Power of the Heavenly Fa- " ther, and is glorified with the ſame Glory " which he had with the Father before the " World began, being aſcended far above all " Heavens, that he might fill all Things, " whoſe Glory is incomprehenſible. And we " alſo believe, that he is that One Mediator " between God and Man, *viz.* That Entire, " Perfect, Heavenly, and moſt Glorious Man, " *Chriſt Jeſus*, who ever lives, and endures, " in his Soul or Spirit, and Glorious Body.

24 *At* LONDON,

A Paper *ſigned by* 31 *of that People, in their Behalf, and preſented to the* Parliament, *Anno* 1693.

" 1. WE ſincerely believe and confeſs, that " *Jeſus* of *Nazareth*, who was born of the " Virgin *Mary*, is the true *Meſſiah*, the very " *Chriſt*, the Son of the Living God, to whom " all the Prophets gave Witneſs: And we " do highly value his Death, Sufferings, " Works, Offices and Merits, for the Re- " demption and Salvation of Mankind, to- " gether with his Laws, Doctrine and Mi- " niſtry.

" 2. THAT

" 2. THAT this very *Chriſt* of God, was, " and is the Lamb of God, that takes away " the Sins of the World, who was ſlain, was " dead, and is alive, and lives for evermore, " in his Divine, Eternal Glory, Dominion " and Power, with the Father.

" 3. THAT the *Holy Scriptures* of the Old " and New Teſtament, are of Divine Au- " thority, as being given by Inſpiration of " God.

25 *William Penn.*

" * AND leſt any ſhould ſay, we are Equi- " vocal in our Expreſſions, and ¶ Allegorize " away *Chriſt's* Appearance in the Fleſh, " meaning thereby our own Fleſh, and that " as often as we mention him, we mean " only a Myſtery, or a myſtical Senſe of him, " be it as to his *Coming*, *Birth*, *Miracles*, *Suf-* " *ferings*, *Death*, *Reſurrection*, *Aſcenſion*, *Me-* " *diation*, and *Judgment:* I would yet add, " to preſerve the Well-diſpoſed from being " ſtaggered by ſuch Suggeſtions, and to in- form

* *W. Penn's Works*, Vol. II. p. 869.

¶ *Note*, We have choſen this Quotation from a Multitude this Author's Works afford, that the *Biſhop* may ſee his *Charge* of *Allegorizing away*, to be an old Calumny, and long ſince confuted. His *Charge* of *Familiſm* too, was formerly objected againſt us by *Henry Hallywell*, whom *W. Penn* anſwer'd in 1672. *See his Works*, Vol. II. p. 470, 471, 472.

" form and reclaim ſuch as are under the " Power and Prejudice of them, That, we " do, we bleſs God, religiouſly believe and " confeſs to the Glory of God the Father, and " the Honour of his Dear and Beloved Son, " that *Chriſt Jeſus* took our Nature upon " him, and was like unto us in all Things, " Sin excepted; That he was born of the " Virgin *Mary*, ſuffered under *Pontius Pilate*, " the *Roman* Governour, was Crucified, Dead " and Buried in the Sepulchre of *Joſeph of A-* " *rimathea*, roſe again the third Day, and a- " ſcended into Heaven, and ſits on the Right " Hand of God, in the Power and Majeſty " of his Father, who will one Day judge the " World by him, even that Bleſſed Man " *Chriſt Jeſus*, according to their Works.

" But becauſe we ſo believe, muſt we not " believe what Chriſt ſaid, *He that is with* " *you, ſhall be in you*, John xiv. *I in them,* " *and they in me*, &c. Chap. xvii. *When it* " *pleaſed God to reveal his Son in me*, &c. Gal. " *The Miſtery hid from Ages is* Chriſt *in the* " Gentiles, *the Hope of Glory*, Col. i. *Unleſs* " Chriſt *be in you, ye are Reprobates*, 2 Cor. xiii. " Or muſt we be * induſtriouſly repreſented " Deniers of *Chriſt's* Coming in the Fleſh, " and

* The *Biſhop* himſelf hath aſſerted in his ſecond Volume, p. 577.

" and the Holy Ends of it, in all the Parts and " Branches of his Doing and Suffering, only " becauſe we believe, and preſs the Neceſſity " of believing, receiving and obeying, his " Inward and Spiritual Appearance and Ma- " nifeſtation of himſelf through his Light, " Grace and Spirit, in the Hearts and Con- " ſciences of Men and Women, to reprove, " convict, convert, and change them? This " we eſteem hard and unrighteous Meaſure, " nor would our warm and ſharp Adverſa- " ries be ſo dealt with by others: But to do " as they would be done to, is too often no " Part of their Practice, whatever it be of " their Profeſſion.

We had almoſt ſlipt the *Biſhop's* Remarks on *James Naylor*, and his Commendations of *Oliver Cromwell*, for the *cruel Puniſhment* inflicted on that *poor Man*, whoſe Crime, the *Biſhop* ſays, was *Blaſpheming, and affronting the God of his Country.*

What *Naylor*'s particular * *Blaſphemy* was, it might perhaps be difficult for the *Biſhop* to demonſtrate; however, we ſhall not now diſ-

pute

577. That, " Though it were allowed, that his (Chriſt's) " confeſſed Spiritual Operations are of a Nature ſuperior to " his Bodily Miracles, yet ſuch a Conceſſion does not tend " in the leaſt to aboliſh and deſtroy his Bodily Miracles."

* See his Tryal.

pute that Point, ſeeing the *Quakers* then teſtified againſt his Deluſions, and himſelf afterward condemn'd them with repeated Tokens of ſincere Repentance: And therefore we think it *Charity* to cover, rather, than expoſe or aggravate the Frailties of a Chriſtian Penitent.

We ſhall add one Quotation more.

" † Of all the Evils that attend Controverſie about Religion, there is none more " odious and provoking, than that of miſtating Principles, and giving that under Men's " Names to the World, for their Doctrine " and Judgment, which they abhor to believe, much more to aſſert and divulge to " others. And this, I hope, I may without " Offence add, That to be miſrepreſented " has moſtly been the Lot of Truth in all Ages, and her peculiar Difficulty and Suffering from the World. For no ſooner has " Almighty God bleſt Mankind with farther " Diſcoveries of his Heavenly Will, and Divine Helps to perform it, than ſome or " other, and thoſe not a few, have immediately oppos'd themſelves to that Work, and " the Lovers and Abettors of it: Nor have " thoſe *Adverſaries* been of the *Rabble*, Men " of no Letters, Education or Pretence to " Religion

† *W. Penn's* Works, Vol. II. p. 650.

" Religion, by no Means: The *Learned*
" *Crew*, the *Clergy*, that great *Corporation* of
" *Religion*, it hath been generally ſuch, the
" *Chemarims*, Men of the *Black Robe*, that
" from a Pretence to greater Knowledge than
" others, an Education in the Studies of Di-
" vinity, a peculiar Warrant and Miſſion,
" with the Countenance of Worldly Autho-
" rity, have us'd their Skill, and employ'd
" their Abilities, to traduce Truth, and ſtig-
" matize her Followers, expoſing both to
" the Fury or Mockery of the World.
" Tell me, when this fell out otherwiſe, and
" allow me *Scripture Story* to be true and
" ſacred.

To conclude, We are ſorry the *Biſhop* ſhould ſtain ſo commendable a Work, as *Vindicating the Literal Account of our Saviour's Miracles*, by aſperſing a People always firm in the Belief of them, and remarkable for their peculiar ſteady Adherence to the Precepts of *Chriſt* in the Literal Senſe of *Scripture*, even where the *Biſhop* himſelf goes from it: Witneſs their known Teſtimony againſt all SWEARING, *Mat.* v. 34. Againſt WARS, *Ibid.* Ver. 44. Againſt TITHES and FORCED MAINTENANCE of MINISTERS, *Mat.* x. 7, 8, 9.

J. B.

20 AP 57